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ATTORNE TRANSPERENT NO.: D7655-00002

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Group Art Unit: 2165

Sean Egan

Examiner: Not Assigned

Serial No.: 10/010,102

Filed: November 8, 2001

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ASSIGNING RATINGS TO MUTUAL FUNDS AND OTHER INVESTMENT FUNDS BASED ON THE VALUE OF VARIOUS FUTURE AND OPTION SECURITIES

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C., 20231 on:

March 1, 2002

Tomica Iones

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 CFR. § 1.56 in connection with the above-identified application, which statement is being filed:

- [] Together with the present application.
- [X] Before the first Office Action on the merits or three (3) months from the filing date of this application, whichever occurs last. [37 CFR § 1.97(b)]
- [] After the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action under §1.113 or Notice of Allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first. [37 CFR § 1.97(c)]

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: D7655-00002

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[] After a Final Office Action under §1.113 or Notice of Allowance under §1.311, but prior to or with payment of the Issue Fee. [37 CFR § 1.97(d)]

Consistent with Applicant's obligations pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, the

following requirements have been met:

- [] No separate requirements are needed.
- [] No additional fee is required.

[] Fee Under 37 CFR § 1.97(c)

The fee of \$240.00 for submission of an IDS under § 1.97(c) as set forth in § 1.17(p) accompanies this statement.

[] <u>Petition Under 37 CFR § 1.97(d)</u>

This is a petition requesting consideration of an IDS under § 1.97(d). The petition fee of \$130.00 set forth in § 1.17(i)(1)accompanies this petition.

[X] <u>Certification Under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)</u>

- () Each item of information contained in this statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement; or
- (X) No item of information contained in this statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Provision of Copies of References

[] A copy of each of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith and forms a part hereof.

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: D7655-00002

[] A partial translation of Reference ___ is enclosed herewith and forms a part hereof.

[] A copy of the European Search Report from a corresponding or related EPO application is enclosed herewith.

[] A copy of the International Search Report from a corresponding or related PCT application is enclosed herewith.

<u>Identification of Prior Application(s) In Which Listed Information Was Already Cited And</u> <u>For Which No Copies Are Submitted Or Need Be Submitted</u>

- [x] This application relies, under 35 U.S.C. § 120, on the earlier filing date of prior U.S. Application No(s). **09/418,184** filed **10/12/99**. The following references were submitted to, and/or cited by, the Office in the prior application(s) and therefore are not required to be provided in this application:
- [x] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>04-1679</u>. A duplicate copy of this transmittal is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 1, 2002

Robert E. Rosenthal Registration No. 33,450

DUANE, MORRIS LLP One Liberty Place Philadelphia, PA 19103-7396 (215) 979-1000

Complete if Known			
Application Number	10/010,102		
Filing Date	November 8, 2001		
First Named Inventor	Sean Egan		
Group Art Unit	2165		
Examiner Name	Not Assigned		
Attorney Docket Number	D7655-00002		
	Application Number Filing Date First Named Inventor Group Art Unit Examiner Name		

				U.S	. PATENT DOCUMENTS										
Examiner	Cite	U.S. Patent Document		Nan	Name of Patentee or Applicant		e of Publication of ited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant							
nitials	No.	Number	Kind Code (if known)		of Cited Document	ı	MM-DD-YYYY	Passages or Relevant Figures Appear							
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Examiner Initials		Office		Kind Code (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applic of Cited Document	Cited Documer MM-DD-YYYY		Passages or Relevant Figures Appear							
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Examiner	Date	

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emporor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁴Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

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Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO			Complete if Known						
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE									
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)					Application Number Filing Date	Novembe			
					First Named Inventor	Sean J. F			
					Group Art Unit	2165			
					Examiner Name	Not Assig	signed		
Sheet		2	of 2		Attorney Docket Number	D7655-00			
		O 1		RT - NO	N PATENT LITERATURE				
Examiner Initials	Cite No.		Include name of the item (book, magazin	CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) of blisher, city and/or country where	ITERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the ium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), d/or country where published				
	Kolb, "Options: The Investor's Complete Toolkit", New York Institute of Finance, 1991, p. 122-133								
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